

Senate Joint Resolution No. 13

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 96

Senate Joint Resolution No. 13—Relative to cross-border transmission lines.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 15, 2011.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 13, Vargas. Public utilities: cross-border transmission lines.

This measure would call upon the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy to reject Semptra Energy's application to construct the Energía Sierra Juárez cross-border transmission line between Mexico and California in order to preserve jobs in California, promote energy independence, and uphold California's labor and environmental laws.

WHEREAS, Cross-border transmission lines between California and Mexico would facilitate the exportation of American jobs by enabling energy companies to import electricity into the United States instead of building energy projects here, where the energy is being used, and thereby move our economy in the wrong direction at a time when we should be putting Americans back to work; and

WHEREAS, The Obama administration has emphasized the need for our nation to reduce our dependence on imported energy because our nation's economic future and security depend on developing energy infrastructure within our own borders; and

WHEREAS, A core component of President Obama's electoral campaign was his commitment to a green energy economy, which would usher in a period of environmental advancement and economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Constructing cross-border transmission lines would undermine the President's vision by enabling energy companies to deliver electricity to the United States from foreign facilities not built to American labor or environmental standards; and

WHEREAS, If we are to reclaim America's middle class, our nation must eliminate opportunities for corporations to export jobs, exploit workers, or raid natural resources; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature, to preserve jobs in California, promote energy independence, and uphold California's exemplary labor and environmental laws, calls upon the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy to reject Semptra Energy's application for a Presidential permit to construct the Energía Sierra Juárez cross-border transmission line between Mexico and San Diego County, California; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to the Chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, to the Secretary of the United States Department of Labor, and to the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy.